

Remarks

I. Status

Following entry of the amendments included herein, claims 19, 20, 22-24, and 38-47 are pending. Claims 1-18, 21, and 25-37 have been cancelled. No amendments are presented herein. Reconsideration of all pending claims is requested.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 33-35 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for purported lack of utility. Applicants disagree; however, those claims have been cancelled to expedite prosecution. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is moot and should be withdrawn.

III. Claim Rejections - Double Patenting

Claims 19-20, 22-24, and 38-47 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly unpatentable over claims 1-10 and 31-34 of U.S. Patent No. 6,927,046. Applicants disagree with this rejection; however, to expedite prosecution Applicants have included a terminal disclaimer of any patent granted on this application in favor of the '046 patent. The double patenting rejection is now inappropriate and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response to the outstanding office action has been made herein. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below if further discussion of the claims could result in allowance. Consideration and early allowance of all of the pending claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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